



# SHS '44 Newsletter

Winter 2008

For Alumni of Shorewood High School, Shorewood, Wisconsin

Vol.9 No.2

## Spotlights

Usually the arrival of one of these newsletters stimulates a response from some members of the class; that makes many of them quite out of date by the time they are published. So starting with this one I'll include the date of receipt along with the notes.

On 7/12/08 **Fred Beutler** wrote "Sue and I have been fortunate that, despite multiple surgeries, cancer, and the general effects of aging we have been able to maintain a good quality of life. We still embrace new experiences in life, and feel we have much left to look forward to. To be sure, our goals are different from those we strived for when we were raising a family and advancing in our careers.

"Since last writing, we have had some more exciting travel experiences. Last Summer we were in Viet Nam and Cambodia on a People to People Ambassadors trip. Having had patella surgery shortly before, my leg was in a full length brace, but I found people (and especially those in Viet Nam and Cambodia) to be most kind and helpful. Then in January we spent two weeks in a small city (Santarem) on the Brazilian Amazon. This was a humanitarian mission we participated in as members of our local Rotary club. After that, we spent a delightful week on a big clipper sailing ship touring parts of the Caribbean. Our next big trip is in February to Jordan, Israel and Egypt under the auspices of our church. In addition, we visited our kids, who are scattered throughout the country.

"During the past year I have found new life as a photographer. Sue bribed (i.e., made a suitable contribution) me into a creative photography

class in the School of Art and Design at the University of Michigan. My work has now taken two directions. First, I write illustrated articles and create PowerPoint presentations describing our Rotary Club's international humanitarian endeavors. Second, I have exhibited prints of my pictures in several venues. I have been able to use a first rate printer to make relatively large (13"x19") prints. Perhaps I should mention that I have not ignored twenty-first century technology; my photography work is now solely in digital format.

"Otherwise, matters have continued much as before. We live in the same house we bought in 1969, but get more help with house and yard maintenance. We continue to play tennis, play in an orchestra (two bands for Sue), visit our kids (scattered over the US), and socialize with our friends.

"There is one question I wanted to ask: do you think there ever will be another SHS '44 reunion? With all those former Shorewood area residents who have moved to gentler climes, not to speak of those unable to travel, I wonder if anyone still has the energy and desire to mount such a reunion. If they do, Sue and I are ready to attend."

"On 7/12/08 John Faville emailed "Hello. Thanks so much for the newsletter. I'll mail a little check your way to help pay (very small help) for the postage, etc.

"Although, as I have said before, because I entered SHS as a sophomore, I really got to know the class of 45 better than 44. There were many exceptions, however. One was Judson Ihrig and it was nice to hear of Judson and Gwen. I have visited the Islands twice since I was stationed there at the end of WWII, and have corresponded

from time to time, but had not heard a thing for several years.

“Another early acquaintance was Jim Scheinfeld. When my family moved to Milwaukee in 1939, I lived on Downer Ave. and Jim lived on the next block East, and, if I remember correctly, we both went to 8th grade at the "Normal" School (now part of the UWM). That school was anything but normal. I learned a lot of interesting things, none of which were of any use at all in the 9th grade at Riverside HS.

“My wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are all doing well. Sharon (wife) and I have 6 guardianships (Mostly mentally ill folks or those that are incompetent to take care of their own affairs). That, my yard and garden and some interesting duties at the Unitarian-Universalist church to which we belong, plus a little traveling, keeps us busy. I also play renaissance instruments i.e. recorders and enough piano to play in church once in awhile.

“Best wishes to you and your family and to all the class of '44. Is there going to be a 65th reunion? It seems to me that, at our age, one needs to be held every 5 years. Sorry that I missed the 60th.

7/13/08: **Marge Aylward Weaver** sent a note: “I had planned a trip to visit **Barbara Osthoff Collins** and **Pat Austin Daase** with **Rita Shaughnessy Rohde**, but the weekend I had chosen the Midwest flooding was so ubiquitous the trip had to be postponed. I’m planning another trip in late August to see how they are.

“On a personal note, I am blessed with reasonable good health, still swim three times a week and enjoy a very active social life which includes a lot of ballroom dancing.

“My daughter, Dr. Ann Weaver-Heidemann (Ph.D. in animal psycho-biology) was featured on a local Florida PBS program on June 26<sup>th</sup>. The program moderator was Jack Perkins of Wild Kingdom fame (can he be still alive??). He has a

program on Florida TV, WEDU, called “Gulf Coast journal” and he called on Ann to show her research on dolphins in Tampa Bay Check on it.<sup>1</sup>

“My computer is crashed; apologies for the handwriting and snail-mail.”

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[Note: How times have changed - now we’re apologizing for *not* sending email!]

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1/8/09: **Rita Shaughnessy Rohde** mentioned that she had recently had lunch with several of her 2<sup>nd</sup>-grade classmates.

7/18/08: **Lois Grabin Hurwitz** sent a nice note “As for myself I have three children, five grandchildren, all girls, and three great grandchildren. I still live in Milwaukee, Fox Point, often passing S.H.S. with wonderful memories of those years long ago.”

In late July **Elizabeth Levy Joseph** sent a note with her new phone number and “My husband just died 2 months ago, so my life is somewhat hectic right now.”

Those of you with computers may be interested in a writeup about our classmate-actress **Charlotte Lubotsky Strauss** on the ‘net. Just Google “Wikipedia Charlotte Rae” - you’ll see Shorewood mentioned, of course. She was recently in the movie “You Don’t Mess with the Zohan.”

12/11/08: **Bob Wendorf** seems to be as active as ever. He plays tennis twice a week (must be indoors; he reported 17 inches of snow when I

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<sup>1</sup>I did check on it - I Googled “Dr Ann Weaver dolphins” and was faced with a great number of “hits” - and adding “WEDU” to the search criteria led me to an on-line video which includes the segment Marge mentioned.

chatted with him).

Bob says having been Treasurer of the Milwaukee Chapter of the Wisconsin Alumni Association for 13 years he was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Award for a Lifetime of Outstanding Contribution. Good show!

He continues to be head elder of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Whitefish Bay and is quite active in their activities, including the recent dedication of a new organ..

As class Treasurer he chatted with **Bob Mandel** and they were kind enough to add some "salt" to the newsletter kitty to keep us in operation for a few more issues. Thanks, guys.

12/11/08: I chatted briefly with **Suzanne Muelheisen Coffey**. You may recall that her husband and our classmate **Charley** had broken his neck a while back and had to wear a neck brace; well, she says it's off now, thank goodness. She had both of her knees replaced last May, and did very well with the process; everything fine after only a month. She's still active in gardening, but of course winter has put a temporary stop to that.

12/11/08: **Audrey Wuesthoff Uber** recently recovered from a bout with breast cancer but she says she's doing fine now. Keeps busy playing bridge and volunteering with several organizations. She says she always has her guest rooms made up and would welcome a visit from her classmates, I hope too many don't take her up on it! LaCrosse.

12/11/08: **Margherita Ferch Getman** reports being active teaching piano and writing poetry having just published a new book.

12/11/08: **Diane Elsom Felzien** is quite ill, living with her daughter in Brookfield.

12/11/08 I had newsletters returned from **Art Gaulke** last summer, but with a little internet searching I located him in a retirement apartment in Milwaukee out near the zoo. He says he also has places in San Diego and Long Lake

(Mercer). Given the wintry conditions there in Milwaukee he was getting ready to head for San Diego after Christmas. He works out three times a week and does yoga two others.

He figures on going back to some sculpting after he gets out west - I guess it's a hobby that's been neglected in recent years. He still golfs; has been a member of a club in California for 20 years now.

12/16/08: **Bob Smith** decided to delay his shoulder replacement until spring; he says the pain-relief patches he's been given are working well He's keeping active managing a non-profit organization that provides housing for low-income families; there are 30 properties involved. Wife **Betty (Schanglies)** continues to reside in a nursing home; Bob says he's working on getting a phone installed so "she can start bothering people."

12/15/08: Besides describing the terrible fires that she has witnessed as a Santa Barbara resident, **Marilyn Miller Davis** reported "I'm going to San Diego for Xmas to spend it with my son David and his family. He has retired from the Navy Seals after 28 yrs. and is training troops for a civilian company and doing security checks at our ports and bases all over the world. My daughter Holly who is an R.N. in Spokane doing only Kidney Dialysis, will be spending the months of Jan. and Feb. here in S.B. doing the same at the local hospital. It will be fun to have her here for such a nice visit instead of 5 day whirlwind visits. Daughter Wendy and husband are traveling in New Zealand and Australia over the holidays so will miss them this year.

"I have been enjoying the many holiday musical events at this time of the year and also the Metropolitan Opera filmings that we are now getting via the Music Academy of the West every month. I also have started an Opera Club here at the residence, Maravilla, which shows popular operas once a month in our theater.

"I'm doing well physically although I had one

incident of atrial fibrillation earlier in the year which went away all by itself without the intervention of carpio-version. My balance isn't good so rather than take chances with falls I use a walker. Even with the walker I did fall last Spring and break a bone in my elbow and my tibia but needed no cast----only therapy for the leg. That was a first----I had never broken any bones before!

1/8/09: **Patricia Austin Daase** reports that she has finished a series of Chemotherapy and a cat scan has shown her to be free of cancer. She mentioned that **Jean Hawtrey Birnie** had recently broken a leg. When I called, husband Chick said the accident was the day before Thanksgiving; she is currently in rehab but they expect she'll be coming home soon.

### **Lost:**

Does anyone know anything about **Ann Webb Krieger**? Her summer newsletter was returned marked "vacant." Several earlier ones had not been returned. Last I heard she was living in Montgomery, Alabama.

Another I've lost touch with is **Carl Balistreri**. Last I heard he was living in Brown Deer, but his last newsletter was returned.

Also missing is **Joanne Missner Van Velsir** last in Corpus Christi, TX.

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

**Shorewood High School Class  
of 1944 Newsletter**

Check our class web site:  
<http://www.rgcle.com/SHS44>

## **Deaths:**

**Anne Sloss Welton, July 12, 2008**

**Bette Gindlin Joseph August 13, 2008**

**Barbara Osthoff Collins, July 9, 2008**

Note: in many cases there are links to the obituaries and death notices of our recently deceased classmates on our web site. See <http://www.rgcle.com/SHS44/>.

A note for **Jane Drengenberg Richards:**  
When I call your number 407-886-2166 I always get 407-886-5166. Any idea why?

# **Here's to a happy and healthy 2009!**

